

# So Weak Legs May Soon Walk

(The following article was written by 18-year-old Terry Shea, one of the 50 California football players who will compete in the Shrine's North-South Football Game in Memorial Coliseum, tomorrow. A quarterback from San Jose's Bellarmine Prep and sports editor of that school's newspaper, Terry wrote this story after visiting with the beneficiaries of the event — patients in the Los Angeles unit of the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled Children. While accounts of such tours are routine by a press that covers more than two dozen Shrine football games throughout the nation on an annual basis, this article is the first of its kind that comes to Press-Herald readers directly from the player).

By TERRY SHEA

While visiting the boys and girls in the hospital, I learned the true meaning of the slogan that is synonymous with all Shrine football games: "Strong Legs Run that Weak Legs May Walk."

When I walked into the girls' ward and saw a leg with no foot, I knew immediately what this game was all about.

I looked away from that leg as quickly as possible for fear that I would embarrass the patient, a pretty blonde about 15 years old.

By the time my eyes reached hers, I had a sinking feeling in my stomach. Simply, I felt as

if one of my passes had been intercepted at a crucial point in a crucial game.

Carol game me a big smile and I gave it right back to her.

I didn't know what to talk about at first, but I guess it went OK because she said she would say a prayer for me just before the game.

As I left Carol, I noticed that dance music was coming from the radio atop her bed stand. I turned to my guide, Hospital Administrator Mary Jane Krantz, and said in a low tone:

"Gosh, that girl will never dance."

Mrs. Krantz replied:

"Oh, she'll dance—and soon. We're in the process of fitting her with an artificial foot and I assure you, by the time she leaves us she'll be able to twist."

As I mingled with the patients, I realized this game would be different than any I, or the other North-South players, had ever been in before.

In addition to victory itself, all of us will be playing our hearts out for the 60 children we met in the Shrine hospital. They deserve nothing less of us.

The memories of the hospital are haunting.

Even now, hours after my visit, I can picture the broken youngsters for whom I will be playing — Jacks and Jills, I might add, who got that way without ever having a chance to go up the hill to fetch a pail of water. I say that because Mrs. Krantz told me that most of the afflictions are congenital. That last word (congenital) is new to me. Mrs. Krantz told me how to spell it, but I had only to look around the ward to know what it meant.

Let's take little Raymond, for example. He's from Mexico and he had been admitted to the hospital only two days before my arrival. He's seven and does not speak English.

Raymond was very serious, and it wasn't until I called upon some of the Spanish I learned at Bellarmine Prep that I finally got through to him. He has never walked. His legs, which were thrown a "curve" by polio, are as thin as the crutches that support him.

I remember Steve, too. He was the polite one. Steve called me "sir" and he showed me a lot for a 12 year old. He had a v-e-r-y strong hand shake, one that was triggered from broad shoulders. Like Raymond, however, his legs were coiled and tender.

Steve wants to be a quarterback. Well, if Carol will dance, maybe Steve will call signals for an Oklahoma team. That's where he's from.

While I made notes on Judith, I don't have to refer to them as I write. How could I forget this four year old? She lives on her back.

A cast covers her chest and embraces part of her neck like a tight hug. When I first saw Judith, I discovered that there really is such a thing as "love at first sight." Boy, what a doll! Her smile was as infectious as the disease that put her in the hospital.

Generally speaking, I noticed that none of the patients felt sorry for themselves. They were happy and, as a result, fun to be with.

For the sake of these children, I sure hope that everybody who reads this will stand up and be counted when North meets South in Memorial Coliseum tomorrow night.

I know one person who wishes he could, in fact, stand up and be counted. His name is Manuel and I also met him at the hospital. This six year old doesn't have feet.

For that matter, Manuel couldn't even participate in a show of hands. His arms end at the elbows.

## Red Devils Capture Connie Mack Crown

The slow-starting Torrance Red Devils finished their South Bay Connie Mack League season with a bang.

Capping an eight-game winning streak, the Red Devils hung a 3-1 defeat on the Tordena Bullets Sunday afternoon in a championship playoff to snare the circuit crown.

Hard-throwing Don Coil chalked up his third win without a loss against the Bullets as he tamed them on five hits while striking out 11 men.

Coil, who starred for Torrance High before moving to El Camino College, has beaten Tordena three times this season.

The Red Devils started slowly in Connie Mack action and dropped two games in the first round of play. Coming back strong in the second half, Torrance went undefeated, including the three wins over Tordena.

Sunday's contest was strictly a title decider. The regular season ended Saturday and both clubs wound up with identical records to finish in a first-place deadlock.

While Coil provided the pitching, Narbonne High's fleet Albert Thompson continued his steady improvement at the plate and wound up with a crucial home run.

Tordena opened the scor-

ing in the first inning as Brent Nickoloff hustled home from third base on a fielder's choice. It was the only time Coil was in danger.

Torrance and Thompson came right back. In their half of the first frame, the Red Devils tied the count as Thompson slammed a bases-empty home run over the left centerfield fence. Thompson belted his homer off a curve ball.

IN THE FIFTH inning, the Satans forged ahead as Coil walked and moved to second on Steve Willding's sacrifice. Thompson was walked intentionally and Tony Guggiana punted a sharp double to right field, scoring Coil.

Steve Water was then walked intentionally to load the bases. Bill Rathkovic spoiled the strategy with a long fly ball to left center, which scored Thompson from third. Guggiana also tagged up but was thrown out at third.

And then the rhubard erupted. The umpire, figuring it was a double play, said the third Red Devil run did not count. Torrance manager Bo Palica objected—and won his point as the umpire reversed the decision.

THAT SET the stage for Bullet manager Bob Prior's quick exit from the dugout. Almost 20 minutes later, Prior went back to the dugout and the Red Devils still owned their 3-1 edge.

West High pitcher John Marsden was tagged with the defeat. He was also the loser two weeks ago when the Devils won a one-run decision over the Bullets.

Tordena and Beach Cities led the circuit most of the way until the Devils came through with their second half surge.

NEXT ON THE agenda, for both the Red Devils and the Bullets, will be the annual Connie Mack League tournament which begins Saturday at Blair Field in Long Beach.

The Bullets will meet the number two team from the Coast League on Sunday at 2 p.m. The Red Devils will open tourney play against a Channel League opponent at 7 p.m. Sunday.

## Sports

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GREGG PETERSON, Sports Editor

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CYCLE ACE . . . Amateur cycle sensation Paul Conserrie from Torrance will compete at Ascot Park Friday night in J. C. Agajanian's weekly flat-track event. Racing will begin at 8:30 p.m. over the half-mile Gardena oval. In the expert division, Sammy Tanner and Elliott Schultz will resume their personal duel in the 15-lap main event.

## Ascot Cycle Riders Face Twin Program

Motorcycle racing daredevils hit a double barreled program this week at Ascot Park, Gardena, with Friday night's flat track events on the half-mile oval augmented by a steeplechase over the jumps Sunday night.

Sammy Tanner, the "Flying Flea" of Bellflower, resumes his famed duels with Elliott Schultz of South Gate in the 15-lap expert class main-event Friday night.

Tanner, 25-year-old Long Beach motorcycle salesman, won the sixth annual 8-mile

Grand National championship at Ascot July 18, and missed last week's program due to competing in the 7-mile nationals at Kansas City.

His races against Schultz, the Enfield mounted whiz kid, have become the talk of two-wheeling fans through the Southland.

Sixteen events culminating in main events for the three competitive divisions of the American Motorcycle Assn.—expert, amateur and novice—feature the program.

ALL WINNERS of past

monthly Ascot steeplechase thrillers go over the jumps Sunday night, including Clark White and Sid Payne, Bakersfield; Eddie Mulder, Burbank, and Skip Van Leeuwen, Lakewood.

Mulder, the sensational first year expert, has won twice (May and July) as have Payne (January and February) and White (March and June). Van Leeuwen triumphed in the April twist and turn event.

Races both Friday night and Sunday night start at 8:30.

## South Tabbed Against North

Fifty of the state's outstanding high-school graduates will tangle tomorrow night in the 13th annual Shrine North-South Football Classic at the Memorial Coliseum.

Kickoff time is 8:30 p.m., preceded by a gigantic and colorful pageant at 7:45, which will feature equestrian units, marching bands and motorcycle corps.

Upwards of 60,000 spectators are expected to attend, thereby donating to the Los Angeles Unit of the Shriners Crippled Childrens Hospitals, where all game proceeds are directed.

The South will be a seven-point favorite, largely because of its exceptional speed and explosiveness. The North, however, has a 20-pound per man weight advantage in the line.

In the past four years, the South has won two and tied another and now holds a 6-4 lead in the series with two games ending in ties. Last year the South won, 13-6.

SOUTH COACHES Jim Pendleton, Los Angeles High, and Dick Coury, Mater Dei in Santa Ana, will have the two fastest halfbacks in Shrine game history in Long Beach Poly's Earl McCulloch and Marvin Motley.

McCulloch is the fastest prep hurdler of all time, having run the highs in 13.7 and the lows in 18.1 for national records. He has also run the 100 in 9.7 seconds.

Motley, who netted 1,205 yards in 120 carries last year, has galloped a 9.9 century and long jumped 24 ft. 6 1/4 in. McCulloch averaged 13.9 yards per carry on a score of 11 touchdowns although he was primarily used on defense.

CARLTON KELLEY, 6-foot 8-inch, 215-pound All-City quarterback from Manual Arts, and Mater Dei's Toby Page, give the South a one-two QB punch. Kelley has thrown the ball 70 to 80 yards under game pressure and boasted a 61.8 per cent completion average last fall.

At end, the Rebels will have Marv Adamo of Birmingham, the All-City Player of the Year.

North coaches Mort Kaer, Weed, and Vince Tringali, St. Ignatius in San Francisco, will depend on Ray Calcagno, the Northern California back of the year.

West High is on the corner of Victor and Spencer streets. Registrations will be taken at the Spencer Street gate, located in mid-block.

Torrance will field seven Pop Warner teams of 33 boys each this year. Boys from 10 to 12 years will compete in the Pee Wee League, 69 to 90 pounds; boys 11 to 13 years of play in the Midget League, 85 to 110 pounds; and boys 12 to 14 years will vie in the Junior Bantam League, 90 to 125 pounds.

Tryouts will begin Monday at 5 p.m. on the West High field and run through the following Friday.

## Dragway To Draw Top Field

A top field of more than 50 fuel and gas dragsters have filed entry for Saturday night's Summer Drag Racing Championships at Mickey Thompson's Fontana International Dragway.

A purse of more than \$3,000 in cash has lured such top drag stars as Paul Southerland and Tom McEwen of Long Beach, Gary Gabelion in the Sandoval Bros. dragster from San Fernando, Jack Ewell of San Pedro, and world record holder Frank Cannon of Compton.

Southerland recently bettered Cannon's world speed record of 199.10 mph with a run of 199.54 mph. The mark is still pending.

CANNON AND Southerland would normally be installed as favorites to win top eliminator, however, strip officials have listed McEwen as the choice, based on his win over both drivers three weeks ago.

McEwen, nick-named "The Mongoose," has been almost unbeatable during the past two months, defeating nearly every top dragster driver on the West Coast.

Southerland holds the strip elapsed time record at Fontana, with a run of 7.97 seconds, however, McEwen has a run of 7.88 seconds and Cannon is not far behind. With drivers this closely matched, the Summer Championships should provide some excellent races.

IN GAS eliminator competition, world record holder John Peters of Santa Monica will be on hand with his famed "Freight Train," twin engine dragster, and is rated as a slight favorite over Sam Rose of San Bernardino.

More than 300 cars will compete in the Championships, which start with qualifying at 1 p.m. Eliminations begin at 7 p.m.

Fontana Dragway is located on Foothill Blvd., just east of Etiwanda Ave., in Fontana. Parking and children under 12 are free.

## Two Races On Saturday

A twin program, featuring a NASCAR Grand National and the Automobile Racing Association Figure Eights, will be held at Ascot Park Saturday night.

The NASCAR event will pit late model stock cars in a 200-lap, 10-mile feature event.

Qualifying will begin at 7 p.m. with the opening race set for 8 p.m.

## Tappa Kegs Tie For Circuit Title

The Taft-Allen Tappa Kegs will tangle with Manhattan Beach Friday night at Alondra Park in an attempt to cinch the second-half West Coast Slo-Pitch Association championship.

With a 12-0 second-round record, the Kegs need only one triumph in their remaining four games to pick up the crown. The Kegs easily snared the first-half championship.

Last week, for the first time in the Kegs' seven-year history, an opponent failed to show up for a scheduled game.

The Santa Ana Bombers, following a mix-up in scheduling, forfeited two West Coast Association contests to Kegs as they had played 248 games

without facing a forfeit.

THE TWIN forfeit triumph, coupled with a Redondo-Gardena split on Friday, gave the Kegs at least a tie for the second-half championship. Redondo won the first game, 4-2, while Gardena took a 2-1 victory in the second contest. The two clubs are now in second place with 8-4 records.

With the West Coast crown all but locked up, the Kegs are looking forward to the West Coast Tournament at Redondo Aug. 21 through Aug. 23 and the Southern California Municipal Athletic Foundation tourney in Torrance Aug. 28 through Aug. 30.

KEGGA MANAGER Chuck Ryan is considering an eastern trip for his club if they fare well in the two tournaments. Ryan would bring the Kegs to Chicago for the national double elimination 16-inch slo-pitch tournament.

He feels that with his club's 31-2 record this season and 229-19 mark in seven years, they would fare well against the Eastern powerhouses. Slo-pitch baseball originally got its start in the East, particularly in Chicago, where many of the old-timers play without mitts.

## South Bay Lead Falls To Knuks

Linda Ross belted two home runs recently as she guided the Marinettes to a 15-8 win over the Dartallians in South Bay Girls Softball League play.

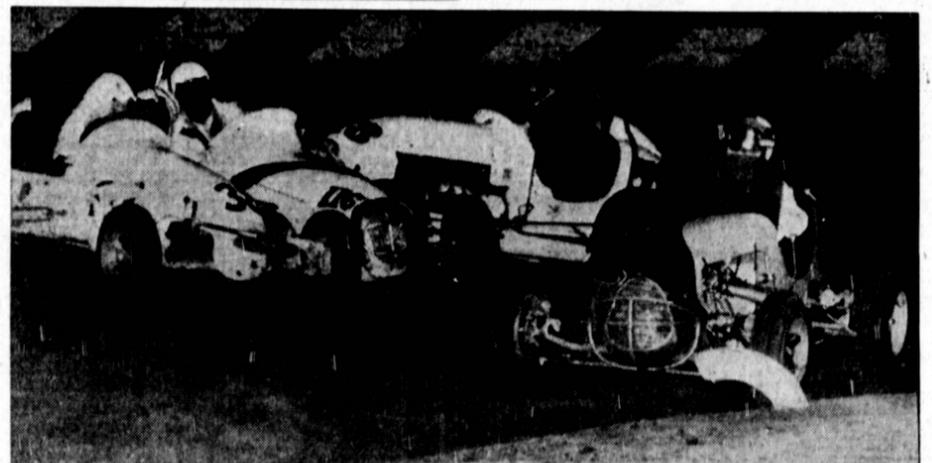
The Gurklies notched a 4-2 triumph over Josie's Angels as Sue Kenny defeated Patti Schnell on the mound.

The Knuks took over the circuit lead with a triumph over the Gurklies, as Claudia Mahin, oldest of the Mahin triplets who play for the Knuks, chalked up the hill decision.

SOUTH BAY GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE			
	W	L	T
Knuks	2	0	2
Josie's Little Angels	1	1	1
Marianettes	2	2	1
Gurklies	2	3	0
Dartallians	1	4	0

TORRANCE WOMEN'S SOFTBALL LEAGUE			
	W	L	T
VA's Little Angels	7	0	0
Esabe	3	3	1
Waltangs	1	1	1
Corkers	2	3	1
Deba	3	3	0
AiResearch	2	4	0
Greenwood	0	3	0
Zodlacs	1	6	0

"YELLOW RIBBON" GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE			
	W	L	T
Sharks	3	0	0
Madrone	3	0	0
Stungans	2	1	0
Wallangs	1	1	1
Cardinals	1	1	1
Blugulls	1	2	0
Greenwood	0	3	0
Barracudas	1	3	0



INJURY ACCIDENT — Veteran racing driver Allen Heath (far right) came away with a broken collarbone in this recent smash-up at Ascot Park in Gardena. Heath returned to action last week and is scheduled

to compete Saturday night, Aug. 8, in a 100-lap United States Auto Club classic on the local oval. Racing director J. C. Agajanian has scheduled no USAC midget car races this Saturday night at Ascot.